

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant(s): Darwin Hou
Title: Palm Office Assistants
Serial No.: 09/812,705
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Examiner: Unknown
Group Art Unit: 2621
Docket No.: 889712-23

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**STATEMENT OF PRE-EXAMINATION SEARCH AND DISCUSSION OF
REFERENCES DEEMED MOST CLOSELY RELATED TO SUBJECT MATTER
ENCOMPASSED BY THE CLAIMS**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Petition Office
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In support of the enclosed Petition to Make Application Special Under MPEP §708.02 VIII, the applicant has engaged a third party to perform a prior art search with respect to the claimed invention. A search report from the third party is listed in PTO Form 1449 and a copy thereof is submitted herewith.

From the list of the references submitted in PTO Form 1449 concurrently filed herewith, the applicant deems the following references (A-D), also listed in Form PTO-1449, to be most closely related to the subject matter, or subject matters of the claims:

- A. US Patent No. 5,115,374, entitled "Portable computer including, for facsimile transmission, a document scanner integral with the display module," by Hongoh, filed Jul. 31, 1990, issued May 19, 1992, describes a laptop computer having an internal modem and facsimile adapter in its main body including a member, on one side of which is formed a touch display screen, which is positionable between a closed position abutting the keyboard, disk drive and a CD ROM drive, and an open position in which the display screen is upright. The member includes the entire paper path for an image scanner contained in the member.
- B. US Patent No. 5,604,640, entitled "Business card scanner and method of use," by Zipf et al., filed Jul. 14, 1995, issued Feb. 18, 1997, provides a business card scanning system. A hollow body having an exterior surface, an interior surface, a first aperture, and a second aperture is formed. The first aperture is used for inserting a business card into the hollow body past a sensor to generate data. A display is positioned in the hollow body for viewing. Data is subsequently processed by the data processing circuits and stored in the data storage circuits.
- C. US Patent No. 6,078,407, entitled "Portable computer and scanner arrangement," by Ma, filed Dec. 8, 1997, issued Jun. 20, 2000, discloses a portable computer and scanner arrangement which includes a scanner, a transparent glass, two parallel rails, a scanning mechanism, two foot plates, a keyboard plate, a planar display, and a portable computer mainframe mounted within the scanner frame, the portable computer mainframe having ribbon cables respectively connected to the scanner, the planar display and the keyboard plate for signal transmission.
- D. US Patent No. 6,115,241, entitled "Attachment of a mobile scanner to a portable computer," by Hu, filed Nov. 6, 1998, issued Sep. 5, 2000, describes a computer/scanner combination, in which a portable

computer having a base and a lid, a sheet-fed scanner and a hook mounting the sheet-fed scanner to the lid of the portable computer; the hook further comprises a clip-holder removably mounted on the top of the lid and two ends removably mounted to the sheet-fed scanner.

However, the claimed subject matter is distinguishable with particularity over the above patents/publications by:

Claim 1's " ... a portable computing device; a scanner integrated with the portable computing device, the scanner exposing to a scanning object and generating an image thereof when the portable computing device and the scanning object have a relative motion; and wherein the portable computing device includes an optical recognition engine that receives the image and produces texts therefrom";

Claim 8's " ... a portable computing device including a display screen and an interface; a pen-style scanner communicating with the portable computing device through the interface, the pen-style scanner scanning in an image of texts on a document and reproducing the texts through a build-in OCR engine; and wherein the texts are displayed on the display screen of the portable computing device"; and

Claim 9's " ...a portable computing device including a display screen; a linear scanner integrated with portable computing device and exposing to a scanning document, the linear scanner including a contact image sensor and generating an image when the linear scanner moves across an area of the scanning document, the area including texts, wherein the image is processed in the portable computing device executing an OCR engine to reproduce the texts; and wherein the texts can be displayed on the display screen when requested."

Hence, the applicants believe that claims 1, 8 and 9 and thus their dependent claims also, are each patentable over US Patent Documents: US Pat. No.: 5,115,374, US Pat. No.: 5,604,640, US Pat. No.: 6,078,407, and US Pat. No.: 6,115,241; singly or in combination, listed in paragraph A-D above.

Please telephone the undersigned at (408)777-8873, if there are any questions.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231", on ~~April~~ 7/12, 2001.

Name: Joe Zheng

Signature: 

Respectfully submitted;



Joe Zheng
Reg.: 39,450